



The

# GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
February 2014      <http://www.gars.org/>      Volume 23, Issue 2



## Ham Radio in February!



Can you find the tower and yagi?

# Message From The President

The time has come for my last note as President of this fine organization. All five executive positions are changing to someone new. This is good as we now pass the reins to some fresh leadership with new ideas. I have enjoyed the last four years as President and the three before that as Program Manager. For my part, I hope I have done well for GARS.



Kyle Albritton—W4KDA

In this note, I wanted to recap and talk about all the great things we have done. Unfortunately, time does not allow, and quite frankly, there are not enough pages in the Garzette to hold all the fun outings, new friendships, acquired knowledge, and fond memories of the past four years. A note simply cannot do the last few years justice.

Still, I do feel I should mention that over the last four years we have been blessed with a growing membership, eager to learn and have fun. We have had an active VE team and a large group of wise and hard working committee chairmen. Helping in all GARS matters, I have had an exceptional executive group at my side, each doing their part to keep this club in tip-top, smooth-running shape. We made a great team. The cohesive combination we have enjoyed has really encouraged this club to blossom and grow. I simply could not ask for *any* more from a volunteer organization.

Before I joined, numerous people worked diligently for many years to build GARS. We should keep in mind that without their efforts and dedication, we would not have the GARS we enjoy today. To the GARS members who came before and laid the foundation for our great club and also to the GARS members who strive now to keep this club great, I say THANK YOU!

Looking ahead, we have great potential and I foresee even greater things for this organization. The prime thing we need is participation. By this I mean each of us must rise to the occasion and step up to the plate to do our part. If we continue to get strong participation, then who knows how far we can go. To those who are taking over and to those who we have not met yet who may read this in the future, I look forward to seeing the places you take the club. GARS has a long history of being comprised of special people and I am confident GARS is in very good hands.

In this final note I leave you with one piece of advice: always remember, this organization is about radio, learning, and having fun. As long as we focus on these ideas, then GARS will have a bright future.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the excellent Techfest we had in January. Thanks to all those who participated from GARS, Gwinnett ARES, and all the other organizations who pitched in. Through all your efforts we continue to bring an important event to the community, educating new hams, well-seasoned hams, and non-hams about the science and art we enjoy together.

Wishing you great health, wealth, and may all your contacts be 59.

And now, saying 73,

*Kyle, W4KDA*



# GARS February Meeting



## Introduction to the GARS Repeater System

by Kyle Albritton, W4KDA

**Tuesday February 11, 2014**

**Meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7pm.  
(except December)**

**at**

**Sports Aviation Complex - Hangar 1  
690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045**

[Directions](#)

## New officers nominated for election this month!

<b>President:</b> Rick Cobb	N4XYY
<b>Vice President:</b> Mike Weathers	ND4V
<b>Treasurer:</b> Sid Weaver	N4NQ
<b>Secretary:</b> Allison Lynch	KZ3JFY
<b>Program Manager:</b> Mike Smith	KK4KHS



In 2014, join ARRL in celebrating 100 years of "Advancing the Art and Science of Radio." Founded in 1914, [ARRL](#) is the National Association for Amateur Radio in the USA. Today, with more than 160,000 members, ARRL is the largest organization of Radio Amateurs in the world.

The **ARRL Centennial QSO Party** is a year-long operating event that celebrates hams making contacts. In the end you will have accumulated points, worked new stations and made new friends all over the world.

The Centennial QSO Party is made-up of two main activities: (1) W1AW operating portable in each state and most territories; and (2) The Centennial Points Challenge which is the accumulation of points from qualifying contacts made throughout 2014. To have a score listed online in the Points Challenge competition, logs must be submitted through the [Logbook of the World \(LoTW\)](#) system.

W1AW will be on the air from every state and most territories, and it will be easy to work WAS working only [W1AW portable operations](#). This is the first ARRL-sponsored operating event where every member is worth at least one point, so work as many points as you can during 2014! Earn awards based upon points, working all states or working W1AW portable in every state and territory. This is an on-the-air event like no other.

# TechFest 2014 in Review

## GARS did it again!

**TechFest 2014 turned out to be a great success in spite of the heavy rains.**

Friday afternoon several of us went over to the exhibit area to survey the situation and do some preliminary setup. We had done what we could by about 5:00 and left so that we would be bright-eyed and bushy-tailed for the next morning. About 7:00am Saturday, several GARS and Gwinnett ARES members turned out to finalize the setup. The front door was unlocked, but the exhibit hall was still secured. A phone call to the security folks got us into the exhibit hall and we were on our way. Earl had prepared the coffee pot and put it on a timer, so the



coffee was warm when we arrived. I think we used a record amount of coffee this year. That cold rain made it a very popular drink. We quickly finished the setup. Sandy and crew did their thing to make the GARS Welcome area look great. The registration tables were manned

and we started selling raffle tickets and filling out registration forms for the door prizes. Several exhibitors were there early and we gave out table assignments. An early call to the maintenance folks to adjust the exhibit hall temperature brought some relief to the warm room as soon as they could come over (about noon). As 9 o'clock rolled by we had almost all of the 15 or so exhibitors setup and our visitors started to arrive. Our reserved tailgate area was sparsely populated. About 4 puddles was it. Just hold your goodies until next year!



At 10:00 we held our first forum and Ralph had a full house when he went through his presentation on dealing with HOA or Spousal Antenna Restrictions. Reports were that it was very informative and will probably sprout some new wire in an attic or two.

Then about 10:30 you could smell the Chili. It looked like 8 or 10 folks brought Chili to be judged in the GARS Chili Cook-Off. Judging took place just after 11:00 and David Adcock pulled out in front of the group. Paul Kelley was a close second. Just after the Chili judging, the final preparations for lunch were completed. Along with the Chili, there were about 500 hotdogs with most any condiment you could ask for. Of course cold drinks and more coffee were available.



Our 12:00 presenter, Dr. Hathaway from Huntsville hadn't shown up at about 11:30, but not long after, he phoned and let us know he was just down the street. So our last forum started about 12:20. We had moved an extra 20 or so chairs to the room but that didn't fill the demand. We kept stealing chairs from the eating area until we had probably 75 chairs and a few folks still standing. Why so many are interested in the Sun, solar cycle and propagation is a mystery. An

*(Continued on page 5)*

# TechFest 2014 in Review

(Continued from page 4)

hour or so later, Dr. Hathaway still had a group surrounding him at the podium asking questions.

All during the morning Sandy had been doing the drawing for door prize names. We had some really great items. There were several Kenwood mobile radios and a bunch of accessories. Close to 1:30 we had the last door prize drawing and drew the name for the ICOM 7100 raffle winner.



It seemed like everyone had a good time. Exhibitors had visitors, and visitors had lots to look at and talk about. The food was good. It was dry inside.

Thanks go out to everyone that participated; exhibitor, presenter, guest, or worker!

*Norm, WA4ZXV*



# Beginner's Corner

I did the “New Ham” booth at the January GARS Tech Fest. It was a fun and exciting meeting with many new and returning hams!

There was one recurring question concerned the Chinese handy-talkies (HTs) and how good they were. I hadn’t had a chance to use any of them, so I decided to investigate.



Amazon.com is selling the BaoFeng u5-5R dual band radio for \$38.00 (<http://www.amazon.com/BaoFeng-UV-5R-136-174-400-480-Dual-Band/dp/B007H4VT7A>).



There are other on-line vendors with comparable prices, too. This radio has 128 channels, and should receive more than just the 2 meter and 70 cm ham bands. It received a 4.5 out of 5.0 stars in on-line reviews. The radio has a good battery and comes with free programming software. You might have to buy a cable to connect it to your computer, but it uses the same 2-pin Kenwood LMR style cable that Wouxun, TYT, and many others use. Reviews say the manual is poorly written, so you might need to ask for help. One review suggested that if you do get one of these radios, to join the BaoFeng Facebook page or check YouTube for any guidance.

Here’s what one reviewer said: “If you buy this, make sure you download and read The (Chinese) Radio Documentation Project (revised edition)”. Do a quick Google search for it. It’s an enthusiast-written manual for the Baofeng UV-5R, created with the beginner in mind. Don’t even waste your time reading the official documentation, it’s worthless.

Several reviewers discuss free programming software on Google that appears to be useful. My advice: check all the reviews before purchasing. For many this should make a great first radio, or a great second or third radio for emergencies.

I also took a look at the WOUXUN 2M/440 Dual Band HT. The specs are similar to the Baofeng, and it is priced at Ham Radio Outlet at \$99.95. Again, this one got mostly 5 star ratings. I don’t know what your funds are, but I went with KK4VLR to HRO before Christmas. She picked up a Yaesu FT-60, I think it was. She bought the radio, the programming software, and a cigarette lighter adapter for about \$200. (Get the programming software; it is worth the price.)

I would get a radio that has at least 2 meters and 70 cm (440 MHz).. If you buy a new radio, you will have to charge up the battery before you use it, unless you hook up the adaptor. At least you can go to your vehicle and plug in a simplex frequency, and hope someone is listening. You might also set up a repeater frequency manually (always a good thing to know), and make a contact that way.

Good idea: Get your radio, take it out of the box, charge the battery, and read the manual while it is charging. You can also load the programming software into your computer.

73 de *David Harden*, KJ4CMY

# The Winter Storm of 2014



# Odds & Ends

**Have you ever received an unexpected email from another Ham? Here's an interesting one, given to us by our very own Paul Kelley, W4KLY. Thank you Paul! [Ed.]**

**From:** Ed Greenberg  
**To:** Paul Kelley W4KLY  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2014 5:16 PM  
**Subject:** Your old call signs

Dear Paul Kelley,

I read your page on QRZ.COM where you state: Calls held over the years are W5CLS, WA4KZU, WB2GOH, WB4DCZ, WK4KK and now W4KLY.

I had WN2GOH and then WB2GOH. I got the WN2 in 1976 and the WB2 a year after that. I held that call as a technician licensee until the mid nineties when I tested for advanced class and chose to take a California call. I was issued KM6CG.

I was wondering when you held WB2GOH.

All the best,

73,

Ed Greenberg  
KM6CG  
Queensbury, NY

**From:** Paul Kelley W4KLY  
**To:** Ed Greenberg KM6CG  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 5, 2014 9:35 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Your old call signs

Hi Ed. Good to hear from you. We moved to NJ in 1967 from NC where I held WA4KZU. For the first year and half we were in an apartment in Summerville and then bought a home and moved to North Plainfield in the spring of 1970. As best as I can recall, I probably got the WB2GOH call in 1970 because that was the first time I was able to get on the air. When I was transferred back south to GA in 1973, I was assigned the WB4DCZ call.

No call ever seemed right to me after loosing my original call. While my parents were still alive and living in the home where I was raised, I kept the W4KLY call. In those days you could get an additional station call. After our move to GA, I became inactive around 1978 and remained inactive until about seven years ago. Things had really changed over the years of my inactivity. When I first learned about the vanity calls, I would have loved to have reclaimed W5CLS, but just

a couple of weeks before I became aware of this possibility, a YL in Texas, Christina L. Smith, got my call! Damn! And since then she moved to WA and took my call with her.

I held an Advanced Class license when I got back into ham radio. Not fully understanding the requirements for vanity calls, I put in a request with three or four choices with WK4KK being probably the last one on the list although the only one that I was qualified to hold, and it was assigned to me. A dumb choice on my part for two reasons: First, it sounds like a call the Grand Wizard of the KKK in GA would like to have, and secondly, any call ending with a "K" is, in my opinion now, a poor call for a CW operator. I guess I was enamored with all the "K's" because of the "K" in "Kelley."

In the meantime, I upgraded to Extra Class and then made several attempts to get a 1x2 4th call area call with no success. A great friend and once long time neighbor, and also a fellow ham radio operator, Ed Joy, a PhD who taught antenna theory and design at GA Tech, retired and moved to CO. His requested and received a CO based call, K0JOY. After all my failures trying to get a 1x2 call, one day thinking of what Ed had done, it occurred to me that "KLY" would be a good call suffix for me for three reasons: It sounded like Kelley, it had good rhythm on CW, and "Kilo-Lima-Yankee" was good phonetics. Both W4KLY and K4KLY were available, and I got W4KLY. Now I wouldn't change calls for any 1x2.

Best wishes and good luck to you, Ed. I'm sure I've told you more than you ever wanted to know, but then that's half the fun of being a ham radio operator.

73 and HNY!

*Paul Kelley*  
- W4KLY -



# HamCram: Good for Amateur Radio or No?

## KB6NU's Ham Radio Blog

I've been teaching one-day Tech classes, often referred to as "Ham Cram" classes for several years now. As a result, a couple hundred people now have Amateur Radio licenses. I'm proud of that, but sometimes a doubt or two creeps in. The doubts come from whether or not I'm teaching the students enough.

I also sometimes think about whether or not, my No-Nonsense study guides ([www.kb6nu.com/tech-manual](http://www.kb6nu.com/tech-manual)) should have more technical content. Recently on my blog ([www.kb6nu.com](http://www.kb6nu.com)), I've been posting sections of the next edition of my No-Nonsense, Technician Class License Study Guide. One comment reads:

"Oh my, now I see why my beloved USA is falling behind in math/technology/university on the world stage. Lack of rigor brings down real world knowledge and this sad trend plagues our country at every level. Your book helps students pass the exam but not learn proper physics."

The commenter is right about my study guides not trying to teach students about math or physics. There are many other books out there that do that. I disagree, though, that my study guides and my one-day classes are part of a "sad trend."

For one thing, an Amateur Radio license is not a degree in electrical engineering. Not only that, the Technician Class license is the very first rung on the Amateur Radio ladder. So, the question is how much knowledge should we require of someone just starting out in our hobby/service?

Secondly, I always stress that an Amateur Radio license is really a license to learn, and getting a Tech license is only the first step in a lifelong learning journey. I've been a ham a long time, and I'm constantly learning new things. And, I'm learning them because I have an

Amateur Radio license. Without the privileges that my license gives me, I wouldn't be able to do the things I'm doing to learn them.

I sometimes regret that I can't teach people more during my one-day classes, but when you get right down to it, there's only so much you can expect. I know that a lot of my students have gone on to get General Class and Extra Class licenses and have turned in to great Amateur Radio operators. Presumably, they've learned a lot in the process.

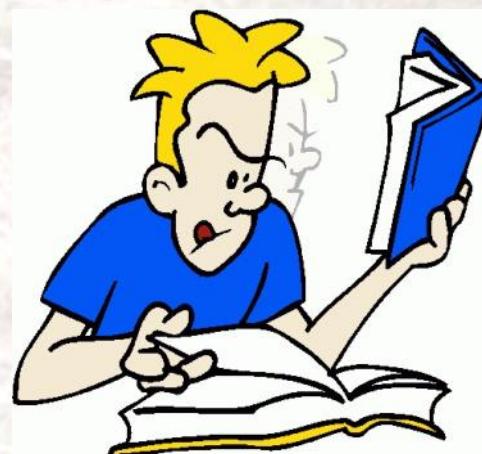
Having said all that, I'm curious as to what you think about this? Are Ham Cram classes good for Amateur Radio? If not, what else should we be doing to help people get involved and enjoy Amateur Radio?

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When he's not teaching class, Dan, KB6NU enjoys working CW on the HF bands and building kits. For more information about his operating activities and his "No-Nonsense" series of Amateur Radio license study guides, go to [KB6NU.Com](http://KB6NU.Com) or e-mail [cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

73!

Dan KB6NU



# GARS Membership Page

## New GARS Members in January

Sarah Harden (KK4WEM)  
Richard Kimsey (KK4VRM)  
Daniel Kroenig (KK4WFC)  
Judy Kruger (KK4USG)  
Jerome Lofton (WD4CWG)  
Peter McDade (KK4WEP)  
Linda Mison (KD6KJL)  
Michael Parrott (N4MEP)  
Charles Roberts (K4HFO)  
Hadassah Silva (KK4TGR)  
James Weber (KK4VQJ)

## New Members: 11

Total Members as of February 1, 2014  
- 263 -

Join us for our weekly breakfast gathering  
at 7:30 AM Most Saturdays at:

Golden Corral  
2155 Riverside Parkway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043  
[\(Directions\)](#)

Also, before our Tuesday meeting you are invited  
to join other GARS members and guests dining at:

The Flying Machine (starting about 5:30 PM)  
510 Briscoe Blvd. NE  
Lawrenceville, GA  
[\(Directions\)](#)

**The following members are  
celebrating birthdays  
in February:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!  
From All of Us at GARS**

**John Astleford Jr (W4NWY)  
Lauren Atkin  
Don Bagby (KK4NJM)  
Manuel Dominguez (N5JMD)  
Kelly Everest (K4NFX)  
Eddie Foust (WD4JEM)  
John Gay (KK4FOJ)  
Robert Hensey (KK4VBM)  
Sandy Jackson (KJ4DRO)  
Suzy Jones (KK4MWC)  
William Kelly (W4WNK)  
Bruce Lindsey (K0GNB)  
Howard Liverance (N2JCE)  
DALE LYNCH (K1DLE)  
Philip McCleary (N4LNE)  
Carlton McPherson (WA4ZUW)  
Aaron Morris (KG4ALB)  
Robby Nelson (KK0BSA)  
Yoshiaki (Sam) Ogane (ND1Y)  
Rick Pawlowski (KK4MNU)  
Matthew Schwab (KK4NJS)  
George Sensibar (W9RR)  
Hadassah Silva (KK4TGR)  
Donald Silva (KG6YUY)  
Arthur Stone (K4GST)  
Michael Swiderski (K4HBI)**

## GARS MEMBERSHIP

To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website—<http://www.gars.org>

To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.),  
please email the Membership Committee - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org)

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free  
<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>

**Membership** Chairman: Rick Cobb, N4XYY

Committee Members: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP; Richard Atkin, KJ4ZTY.

# Net Managers Corner

Hello everyone, from N4LNE, GARS Net Manager.

I want to thank everyone for taking the time to check in to the nets and I especially wish to thank the NCS and ANCS stations for their time and effort.

Please think about adding *your* name to the list as NCS or ANCS.

## Monday Night Net Stats

DATE	CHECK INS	NCS	ANCS
01/06/2013	33	Ray N4GYN	Charles K4CHB
01/13/2013	32	John WB4QDX	Charles KK4TKJ
01/20/2013	32	Bill KK4AUA	James KK4LDD
01/27/2013	36	Norm WA4ZXV	Neil W4HNG

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## Wednesday Night “Know It All” Net Stats

DATE	CHECK INS	NCS	ANCS
01/01/2013	—	Holiday—No Net	-
01/08/2013	25	Jeff AB4HF	Jim KK4LDD
01/15/2013	24	Jeff AB4HF	Nic KK4TPW
01/29/2013	25	Jeff AB4HF	Chuck KK4TKJ

73'

See you on the Nets!

*Phil,* N4LNE  
Net Manager



## Upcoming TOPICS for the “KNOW IT ALL” Net Thursday nights, 8-9:30 pm

- Feb-05 Radio Roundtable
- Feb-12 TBD
- Feb-19 TBD
- Feb-26 TBD

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a “KNOW IT ALL”.

**TIME:** 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 147.075, PL 82.5

## ARRL CONTESTING INFO

( All names of contests are Links in .pdf version)

### February

10-14 [School Club Roundup](#)  
15-16 [International DX – CW](#)

### March

1-2 [International DX– Phone](#)

### April

20 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

### June

14-16 [June VHF](#)  
15 [Kids Day](#)  
28-29 [Field Day](#)

### February: [School Club Roundup—Details:](#)

**Objective:** To exchange QSO information with club stations that are part of an elementary, middle, or high school or college. Non-school clubs and individuals are encouraged to participate.

Sponsored by the ARRL, its Hudson Division Education Task Force and the Long Island Mobile Amateur Radio Club (LIMARC) to foster contacts with and among school radio clubs.

Award certificates will be issued for the following US and DX categories: **Schools:** Elementary, Middle/Intermediate/Junior High School, High School and College/University

### February: [International DX—CW](#)

**Objective:** To encourage W/VE stations to expand knowledge of DX propagation on the HF and MF bands, improve operating skills, and improve station capability by creating a competition in which DX stations may only contact W/VE stations.

W/VE amateurs work as many DX stations in as many DXCC entities as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands.

DX stations work as many W/VE stations in as many of the 48 contiguous states and provinces as possible.

### March: [International DX– Phone](#)

**Objective:** To encourage W/VE stations to expand knowledge of DX propagation on the HF and MF bands, improve operating skills, and improve station capability by creating a competition in which DX stations may only contact W/VE stations.

W/VE amateurs work as many DX stations in as many DXCC entities as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, and 10 meter bands.

DX stations work as many W/VE stations in as many of the 48 contiguous states and provinces as possible.

## HAMFEST CALENDAR

### Southeast US

#### **02/22/2014 | [Dalton Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Dalton, GA  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Dalton Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://daltonhamfest.com>

#### **03/01/2014 | [Alabama Section Convention \(BirmingHAMfest 2014\)](#)**

**Location:** Birmingham, AL  
**Type:** ARRL Convention  
**Sponsor:** Birmingham ARC  
**Website:** <http://BirminghamFest.org>

#### **03/15/2014 | [Ellijay Ham Fest](#)**

**Location:** Ellijay, GA  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Ellijay Amateur Radio Society  
**Website:** <http://www.w4hhh.org>

#### **03/29/2014 | [Thomasville ARC Hamfest](#)**

**Location:** Thomasville, GA  
**Type:** ARRL Hamfest  
**Sponsor:** Thomasville Amateur Radio Club  
**Website:** <http://thomasvilleamateurradioclub.com/hamfest/>

#### **06/07/2014 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Atlanta Hamfest\)](#)**

**Location:** Marietta, GA  
**Type:** ARRL Convention pending Executive Committee approval  
**Sponsor:** Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC) & Kennebogee Amateur Radio Club (W4BTI)  
**Website:** <http://www.atlantahamfest.org>



## BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology,

### Venture Crew 73 is for you.

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:  
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex  
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◊ Camping
- ◊ Hiking
- ◊ Horseback Riding
- ◊ Shooting Sports

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

**Steve Back, WB2OGY**

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

Phone: 770-712-9069

Email: [committeechair@venturecrew73.org](mailto:committeechair@venturecrew73.org)

**Jeff Lee, AF4JL**

Venture Crew 73 Advisor

Phone: 678-475-3165

Email: [advisor@venturecrew73.org](mailto:advisor@venturecrew73.org)



## GARS Officers and Committee Chairs

Rick Cobb, N4XYY  
President



Mike Weathers, ND4V  
Vice President



Allison Lynch, KZ3JEY  
Secretary



Sid Weaver, N4NQ  
Treasurer, Apparel Manager



Mike Smith, KK4KHS  
Program Manager



Rick Cobb, N4XYY  
Membership Chairman



Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
Ham Exam Team Leader



David Adcock, KA4KKF  
Webmaster, Field Day Chairman



Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ  
Public Information Officer



Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV  
TechFest Chairman



Ray Bailey, N4GYN  
GARzette Editor



Jeff Cutchins, AB4HF  
Multimedia Chairman



John Ackermann, N8UR  
W4GR Trustee



Eddie Foust, WD4JEM  
Repeater Chairman



Mike Weathers, ND4V  
WAS-Checker, Historian



Phil McCleary, N4LNE  
Net Manager, ELMER Chair



Mike Swiderski, K4HBI  
Technical Advisor



## GARS Communications

2 Meter Repeater  
147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

2 Meter Repeater  
147.255(+) MHz  
107.2 PL Tone

APRS  
144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR

6 Meter Repeater  
53.110 (-1 MHz)  
82.5 PL Tone

D-Star  
WD4STR  
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)  
440.550 + (5 MHz)

70 Cm Repeaters  
444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone  
442.100(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

Main Repeater Site  
Oak Street,  
Lawrenceville

Backup Repeater Site  
Lanier Mountain,

## Exam Results

We had a great exam session  
January 12!

We tested 6 applicants; 5 passed.  
The USPS tracking number to W5YI is:  
9205 5901 1131 2602 0328 20

### Ham exam session results:

- 4 new Technicians
- 1 upgraded to General

Thanks to the VE's who made this exam session possible:

- Mark Fehlig. WA6NGC (Co-CVE)
- David Bruse, W4DTR (CVE)
- Larry Whited, WB4FGF
- Karen Whited, KJ4VQI
- Johnathan Cherepy, WB4WTN
- Robert Pursley, WD4KQQ

73,

Mark G. Fehlig, Co-CVE

## GARS Recurring Calendar

- ♦ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ♦ Every Monday at 8 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ♦ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 2-meter repeater
- ♦ Every Thursday at 9 pm: GARS Round Table Net, 2 & 6 Meters

Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

## Meeting Minutes for January 14, 2014

- Kyle Albritton, W4KDA, President, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm.
- First time visitors and special guests were recognized.
- Introductions were made by those present.
- Techfest went well. Out of the 20 tests taken at the VE session, 19 people passed. David Adcock won the Chili cookoff and Paul Kelly placed 2nd. Thanks to all who participated.
- Kyle called for committee reports:
- Treasurer's report – presented by treasurer, Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC: GARS gets \$2 for each ARRL renewal and \$15 for new ARRL applicants.
- Membership report – available in the *Gazette*.
- GARS currently has 268 members.
- The December HamCram went well and 17 out of the 20 attendees passed their test.
- The Dog Show fundraiser is coming up on Jan 30, 31 and Feb 1, 2. Email David Adcock at ka4kkf@arrl.net to signup.
- Alford Memorial Radio Club presented a check to GARS for \$750 for our assistance with the Stone Mountain Hamfest.
- GARS and the VE team both made donations to the ARRL in memory of Ray Back.
- GARS officer elections will be held at the February meeting. The proposed slate of candidates is:
  - President - Rick Cobb, N4XYY
  - Vice President - Mike Weathers, ND4V
  - Treasurer - Sid Weaver, N4NQ
  - Secretary - Allison Lynch, KZ3JFY
  - Program Manager - Mike Smith, KK4KHS
- There were no additional nominations made at the January meeting.
- Break
- The program for tonight was "Things Every Ham Should Know" by Rich Arland, K7SZ.
- Prize drawings were held.
- There were 85 attendees.
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

*Hal, W4IGE, Secretary*

## Learn to Solder

### February Second Sunday Tech Session --- Learn to Solder with Michael KD4SGN

Never soldered a component before? Tried soldering but not quite comfortable with your skill yet?

Then this session is for you. Michael will teach you the basics of soldering at the next Second Sunday Tech session on **Sunday, Feb, 9, 2014, from 2:00 - 5:00 pm.**

We will meet at Dekalb Peachtree Airport (PDK) in the Administration Building, Room 227.  
Follow the signs to 'Angel Flight.'

You are welcome to bring your own low wattage soldering iron and other soldering equipment but we plan to have plenty of extras on hand in case you don't have the right equipment. If you have a personal pair of safety glasses bring those along. We will have these available if you don't have a pair or forget yours.

For a look at the kit that you will solder, see this site:

<http://www.goldmine-elec-products.com/prodinfo.asp?number=C6445A>

The kit has a total of 30 components to give you plenty of practice!

NOTE - Due to limited space we have to limit this exercise to a total of 15 soldering participants. You will have to make a reservation by sending an email to [n4ewt@arrl.net](mailto:n4ewt@arrl.net). You will receive a reply with your reservation number and a reminder to bring \$5.50 to cover the cost of the kit. Remember to make your reservations early to insure a spot at this event. See you Sunday, Feb. 9th!

#### GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FEBRUARY 2014

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
					1 6:00 -2:00 pm <b>DOG SHOW</b>	2 6:00 -2:00 pm <b>DOG SHOW</b>
3 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	4 6:30 - 8:00 pm GARS Exec Meeting	5 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	6	7	8 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive	9
10 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	11 <b>5:00 - 6:30 PM Dinner at Flying Machine 7:00 -9:00pm GARS Meeting</b>	12 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	13	14	15 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive	16
17 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	18	19 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	20	21	22 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive	23
24 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	25	26 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	27	28	1 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive	2

Metro Testing Sessions	Ham Exam Results	Metro Club Meetings
<p>GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <a href="http://www.arrl-ga.org">http://www.arrl-ga.org</a>.</p> <p><b>First Sunday, ODD Months</b> 2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, &amp; Nov) WCARS VEC Braselton Public Utility Building 4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA Roger Gibson, WB4T (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560 <a href="mailto:w4rlg@bellsouth.net">w4rlg@bellsouth.net</a></p> <p><b>First Sunday, EVEN Months</b> 2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec) WCARS VEC Hall County EOC 470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga. Perry Roper, KO4RD (770) 536-3056</p> <p><b>Second Saturday, ODD Months</b> ARRL VEC 8:30 a.m. Stone Mountain Methodist Church 5312 West Mountain St. Stone Mountain Bob Varone, W4ETN (770) 978-3179</p> <p><b>Second Sunday</b> VEC: W5YI 2 pm Gwinnett County Fire Station #5 3001 Old Norcross Road Duluth, GA 30096 Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR Email: <a href="mailto:exams@gars.org">exams@gars.org</a></p> <p><b>Third Saturday</b> VEC: W5YI 3 pm (Except December) Auburn City Hall Council Room 1369 Fourth Avenue Auburn, GA Steve Donellan, N5SMD (404) 520-0368</p> <p>(cont. next column)</p>	<p>We had a very successful and pleasant test session during TechFest 2014.</p> <p>20 applicants tested and 19 upgraded.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 11 new Technicians</li> <li>- 6 Upgraded to General</li> <li>- 2 Upgraded to Extra</li> </ul> <p>Thanks to the following VE's.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sid Weaver, N4NQ (Co-CVE)</li> <li>- Dave Bruse, W4DTR (CVE)</li> <li>- Don Bagby, KK4NJM</li> <li>- Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN</li> <li>- Robert Pursley, WD4KQQ</li> <li>- Louis Manglass Jr., NY4F</li> <li>- Louis Shulman, KJ4DRW</li> <li>- Mark Fehlig, WA6NGC</li> <li>- Marq Collins, KE4YLB</li> <li>- Karen Whited, KJ4VQI</li> <li>- Larry Whited, WB4FGF</li> <li>- Gary P. Smity, AK4PT</li> </ul> <p>Thanks &amp; 73, <i>Sid Weaver</i>, N4NQ</p> <p>USPS tracking #: 9205 5901 1131 2602 2327 90 Email: <a href="mailto:exams@gars.org">exams@gars.org</a></p> <p><b>Fourth Tuesday</b> ARRL VEC 7 pm @ United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770) 942-6466</p> <p><b>Fourth Sunday</b> 2:30 pm Georgia Tech VanLeer Elec. Building Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr. See <a href="http://www.w4aql.com">www.w4aql.com</a> Alexander G. Carver (404) 894-2936 <a href="mailto:acarver@ece.gatech.edu">acarver@ece.gatech.edu</a></p>	<p><b>First Tuesday</b> Kennehoochee ARC Downtown Marietta Fire Station #1, Training Room 112 Haynes Street Marietta, Georgia 30060 Meeting begins at 7:00pm Talk In 146.880(-)</p> <p><b>First Thursday</b> Atlanta Radio Club Georgia Red Cross HQ 1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta Meeting is at 7:30pm Talk In -146.820(-) N.E. Georgia ARC Commerce Public Library Meeting is at 6:30pm Talk In - 147.225(+) PL 123.0</p> <p><b>Second Monday</b> Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p><b>Second Thursday</b> Alford Memorial Radio Club Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Rd &amp; Spain Rd Stone Mountain Dinner at 6:00pm Meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p><b>Second Saturday</b> North GA QRP Club Board Room of The Shepherd Center at 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta at 10:00 AM</p> <p><b>Third Tuesday</b> North Fulton Amateur Radio League Masonic Lodge 194 Milton Avenue Alpharetta, Georgia meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 145.47(-)</p> <p>For more, go to: <a href="http://www.gars.org/">http://www.gars.org/</a></p>

## Second Sunday Tech Session

The monthly meeting of the "**Second Sunday Tech Session**" will be **Sunday, January 12th at 3:00pm** in the main conference room at the main administration building of **Dekalb Peachtree Airport (PDK) in Chamblee**. The building is at the end of the main entrance to the airport - just follow the road off Clairemont down to the cul-de-sac parking lot at its end. The conference room is in the building marked "Epps". Come in the main entrance take the stairs at the left, the room is on the left at the top of the stairs—room 227. Talk-in (unofficial) is on the 146.820 machine (minus with 146.2 PL). Most times simplex 146.520 is also monitored.

We will be learning how to build PL-259 connectors and doing them (this is "hands on" sessions after all), building SO-238s, learning and building Anderson Power Pole connectors, ring and spade terminals, and fixing whatever needs to be fixed.

Also, of course, when dealing with these things you also need to learn techniques for soldering, crimping, stripping insulation, and so on. And my favorite, blow-torch use.

So if you have coax and need connectors on it, bring it on. Power poles, the same. Any sort of wire you need attached to something, bring it too. And if you have learned something interesting and want to teach others, come on down and join us. This is not a repair service but a chance to learn some basic skills of repair you can use yourself or pick up some tricks someone else has learned. And of course, have a good time. Some snacks and soft drinks will be provided. Feel free to bring your own to share too.

See you there and then.

*Bill Perkins*—KB4KFT

## The GARzette

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

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If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by email to n4gyn@arrl.net. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

*The GARzette* is published each month with the assistance of Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org>

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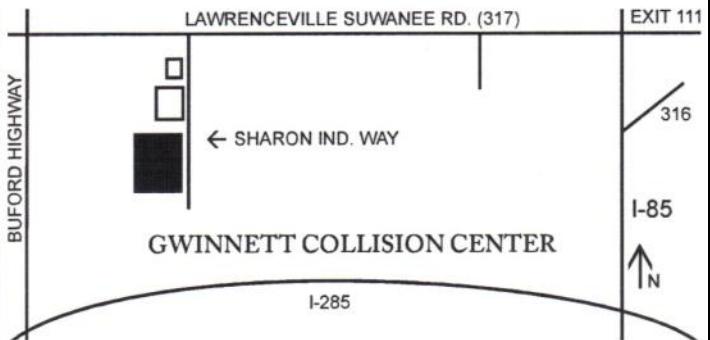
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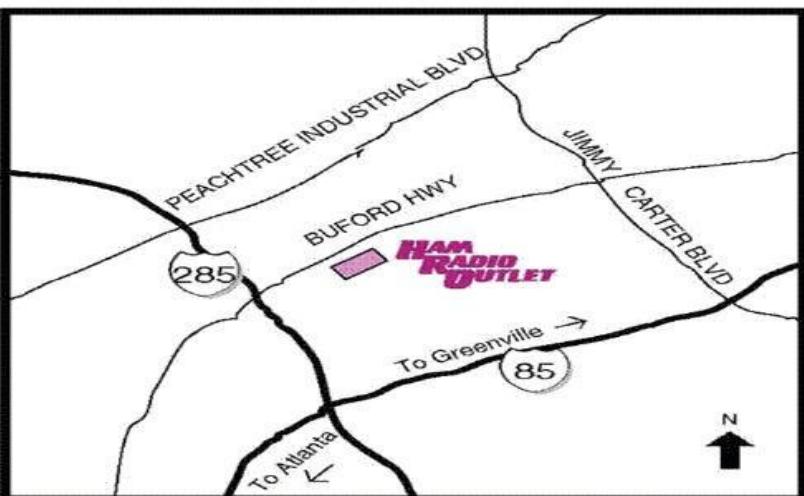
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